

We 9 Kings of Orient Aren't

I. Slide1 **Announce:**

A. Slide2 Christmas Services

II. Slide3 **Intro:** *We 9 Kings of Orient Aren't*

A. Brian, do I need to know about these 9 kings?...**no**, **but** I think you should know about a couple of them. Especially our first king is referred to so much.

1. And we can glean from a few stories of the other guys.

B. Slide4 These 2 chapters cover about 80 years. (covering 6 kings from Israel & 3 from Judah) - Note: Image of King Chart.

III. Slide5 **CHAPTER 15**

A. **AZARIAH** (aka Uzziah) & **JOTHAM** (1-7)

B. **Uzziah & Jotham** (his son) *started well*. Were even considered *good kings*.

1. Unfortunately **Azariah/Uzziah** became **proud** and wanted to *serve as priest*.

2. He was punished by **leprosy**.

3. **Key:** *accept the sphere of blessing God gives you and do not meddle with matters that are beyond you.*

a) Slide6 Ps.131:1 *Lord, my heart is not proud; my eyes are not haughty. I don't concern myself w/matters too great or too awesome for me to grasp.*

C. **Uzziah** plays a big part in Scripture.

1. Slide7 Is.1:1 *The vision of Isaiah the son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.*

2. Amos 1:1 *The words of Amos, who was among the sheepbreeders of Tekoa, which he saw concerning Israel in the days of Uzziah king of Judah...*

3. Hos.1:1 *The word of the Lord that came to Hosea the son of Beeri, in the days of Uzziah...*

4. He was even mentioned in **Jesus family tree** through Joseph's line. Mt.1:8,9

D. Read 2 Chron 26:15-23

1. **Slide8a** (23) Uzziah was buried **in a field** for burial that belonged to the kings of Judah, **but** not in the official tomb of the kings of Judah...because **he had leprosy**.
 - a) For some reason his bones had to be *reinterred* during time of the NT.
 - b) **Slide8b** Archaeologists have discovered a marble tombstone in Jerusalem written in **Aramaic**. The inscription on the tombstone reads, *“Here were brought the bones of Uzziah, king of Judah. Do not open it.”*

2. **Slide9a** Is.6:1-3 Isaiah received his divine call to ministry the year Uzziah died. *In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple. Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one cried to another and said: “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!”*
 - a) **In the year that king Uzziah died** – This is more than a date on a calendar.
 - (1) Isaiah was dealing with a new era, a new year.
 - (2) **Uzziah** was basically a **good** king.
 - (3) Once a great hero & king to Isaiah. **Until** he became powerful...**then**, he forgot God...**then**, disobeyed his clear instructions, & **so** was afflicted w/ leprosy.
 - (a) Struck w/Leprosy 10 years before he died (2 Chron.26:16-20)
 - (b) His heart was lifted up. Entered temple/burnt incense. Leprosy broke out on forehead. Azariah (priest) +80 threw him out.
 - (4) **What would happen to the country w/him now gone?**
 - b) **I saw the Lord** - This is *Adoni*. Isaiah had a life changing vision of...**Jesus**.
 - (1) Jn.12:41 **These things Isaiah said when he saw His glory and spoke of Him** (i.e. His = Jesus)
 - c) **What would happen to the country w/him now gone?**
 - (1) **Well**, we have a **King** on a **heavenly throne** that He will always **occupy**, & always be in **control** (6:5b *king*).

(2) When things on **earth** are discouraging, start looking at things from **heavens** point of view.

d) **High & lifted up** – refer to **Him**, not His throne.

e) **Seraphim** – Lit. *burning one's*.

(1) In **humility** they cover their faces. In **respect** they cover their feet.

f) When you **worship** focus on God's *holiness, sovereignty, & glory*.

g) The **3-fold repetition** of **Holy** is unprecedented in *all* of Scripture.

(1) *Doubled* was the Hebraic style to show *superlative*. **But here**, it is raised to the 3rd power.

h) This year (2018) will you **see the Lord**?

(1) **Or**, will you only see your **circumstances**? only see your **problems**? only see the **negative things** going on in our world?

E. **Slide9b** ZECHARIAH, SHALLUM, MENAHEM (8-22) all Israel

F. (13) **A full month**...wow!

G. (16) Menahem ripped *pregnant women* open.

H. **PEKAHIAH, PEKAH, JOTHAM, & JOTHAM**/Judah (23-38)

I. (19,29) **Pul** aka *Tiglath Pileser III* from **Assyria**. *Their Captivity begins*.

1. This **1st deportation** of the Israelites probably took place in 733 b.c.

A **second deportation** followed 11 years later in 722 b.c.

IV. **Slide10** **CHAPTER 16**

A. (3, 14-18) - Ahaz **robbed God's temple** to buy protection **and** he **offered his son** to a heathen god to secure help.

B. (7) I hate the depth he sinks to...*I am your servant & your son. Come up & save me*

1. **Yet**, I guess that's what I *whisper to my flesh*.

C. **Slide11a** *Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; But we will remember the name of the Lord our God.* Ps.20:7

1. No life is more **secure** **than** a life *surrendered to God*.

2. Slide11b When Jonathan Edwards, the great pastor and theologian died unexpectedly from a **smallpox vaccination**, his wife (Sarah Pierpont) wrote these words, *“What shall I say? A holy and good God has covered us with a dark cloud. O that we may kiss the rod, & lay our hands on our mouths! The Lord has done it...But my God lives; and he has my heart...We are all given to God.”*

D. (10,11) Compare this priest Urijah to Azariah the priest w/his 80 valiant priests.

E. Instead of following *the divine pattern* for the altar, he borrowed a pattern from a heathen Temple.

1. Slide12 How often do we substitute **our own** thoughts and plans for **God's**?
 - a) Oh just every time I have *thoughts & plans* :)
 - b) **Actually**, I think we can **ask** ourselves...in these thoughts & plans...who is going to receive **the glory** (me or God?)
In these thoughts & plans for my life...do I believe it will put a smile on my God's face? What would you ask yourself?
2. As God's people we do not need **the novelties of the world**, no matter how **attractive** they may be.
3. **It is tragic** when we try to worship God after the pattern of **the world** and not after the **heavenly pattern**.
4. **Are you looking for religious novelties?** Guard your altar, keep it intact.